

# **CITY OF DETROIT FISCAL 2007/08 BUDGET**

## **AGENCY 45 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The Department of Administrative Hearings (DAH) will support the Mayor's vision to transform the government of the City of Detroit to the Next Detroit by applying the guiding principles of the Next Detroit, which means a commitment to structural balancing by managing costs and improving services to citizens.

The Department of Administrative Hearings will help support the Mayor's initiative to create a cleaner city by establishing an efficient and cost-effective manner to adjudicate cases in an impartial and independent forum.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Department of Administrative Hearings incorporates the Municipal Ordinance Violations Bureau's (MOVB) collection process into its system, thereby establishing new procedures for the administration, adjudication and collection of blight violations into one framework. The Zoning, Environmental, and Property Maintenance branches of the MOVB are now adjudicated under the Department of Administrative Hearings. The DAH will assess civil fines and costs pursuant to the schedules of violations for the Blight Ordinances. Under the DAH, violation notices will contain hearing dates, so no separate citation will be generated, and hearings will yield Decisions and Orders with which a defendant must comply or appeal to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court of Michigan.

### **GOALS**

1. Adjudicate unlimited numbers of blight code violations issued by authorized City agents.
2. Streamline adjudication of code violations by providing administrative hearings.
3. Enhance collectibility of fines and fees, through garnishments and liens utilizing the Department's decisions and orders.
4. Adjudicate violations with sensitivity to their impact on the escalating problem of blight in Detroit.

### **DEPARTMENTAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

	<u>GENERAL</u> <u>FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
EXPENDITURES	\$2,199,607	\$2,199,607
REVENUES	<u>887,067</u>	<u>887,067</u>
NET TAX COST	\$1,312,540	\$1,312,540
POSITIONS	6	6